



Toward Abolitionist Horizons

25 YEARS OF CRITICAL RESISTANCE



A night of **performances & discussion** to inspire strategy & freedom, benefitting **Critical Resistance**, a national grassroots organization working to abolish the prison industrial complex since 1998.

**May 5, 2023 at McKenna Theater,
SF State in San Francisco, CA**





The Program

6:00-6:45

Refreshments, Mingling, Activities

7:00-7:15

Welcome & Introduction
by Rehana Lerandeau

7:15-7:35

Performances by
Dancing Through Prison Walls

7:35-8:00

Looking Back, Looking Forward
25 Years of Critical Resistance
by Mohamed Shehk

8:00-8:10

-Intermission-

8:10-9:25

Panel Discussion
with *Angela Davis, Ny Nourn & Andrea Ritchie*
moderated by Kamau Walton

9:25-9:35

Sustain Critical Resistance!

9:35-9:55

Performances by
Dancing Through Prison Walls

9:55-10:00

Thank You & Closing

25 YEARS OF CRITICAL RESISTANCE

In 1997, a group of organizers came together to plan a historic conference. Held in **Berkeley, California in September 1998**, the conference brought together **over 3,500** activists, academics, former and current prisoners, labor leaders, religious organizations, feminists, gay, lesbian and transgender activists, youth, families, and policy makers from literally every state and other countries. The three-day event—called “**Critical Resistance: Beyond the Prison Industrial Complex**”—featured nearly 200 different panels and workshops, as well as a number of cultural events and a film festival. While the conference was a huge success, the abolitionist conference organizing formation calling itself “**Critical Resistance**” recognized that its work had only begun. **The goal of Critical Resistance (CR) was, and continues to be, to build an international movement to eliminate the prison industrial complex or PIC.**

In **December 1999**, about twenty people from around the Northeast met in Philadelphia and agreed to begin the work of organizing the **Northeast Regional Conference. Critical Resistance East (CR East)** was held **March, 2001, in New York City**, and drew over 2,000 people during its three days. Focused on presenters from the region talking about abolitionist strategies and skills for organizing against the PIC, CR East prioritized the participation and leadership of people most impacted by the PIC.

From the beginning, conference organizers knew that this was only a jumping-off point for a regional component of CR’s movement building project, and for smaller groups to find their way into organizing locally in their areas. As CR East planners were putting the regional conference together, CR continued to grow nationally, it became clear that CR needed to develop a national structure and to come up with a strategic plan for moving forward.

In late **May 2001** two months after CR East, 20 CR organizers from California, Ohio, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, and Georgia came together to develop a plan for a national structure, to articulate our political ideology, and generate ideas about how to do CR work locally.



25 YEARS OF CRITICAL RESISTANCE: (Conferences continued)

What came out of that meeting was a plan for **CR to become a national grassroots organization** structured through **local chapters** that would be connected under a shared mission and organizing principles, yet ***focused on local organizing issues***.

In **April 2003**, CR continued its movement building efforts by holding **CR South**, a regional conference, in **New Orleans, Louisiana**, a year and a half in the making, bringing together prisoners, family members, former prisoners, teachers, activists, communities of faith, and community members from across the South to strategize resistance to the PIC in the southern US.

Over the course of the weekend nearly 1500 people came together to share tactics and forge new alliances. CR was also able to build its base, as new chapters and partnerships emerged from the lead-up organizing to the conference across the South and the event itself.

After CR South, we collectively made a decision to not begin any other conference planning projects for a few years so that we could focus instead on nurturing our new chapters and our emerging national grassroots organizational model. In **2007**, established CR chapters came together again nationally to plan a nearly **two-year organizing project** engaging people living inside and outside of prisons, jails, and detention centers and around the world to **celebrate CR's 10 years of strategy and struggle to abolish the PIC**, culminating in our **last conference in Oakland, CA in September 2008**.

“ The last 25 years Critical Resistance has been an integral part of enlightening the public about the ills of the prison industrial complex. They have exposed that in a very good way and done it consistently. What truly makes the world go around is information and communication. No matter what the subject may be, if you cannot communicate it, it doesn't exist. Communication is half of the key to any successful venture. Without communication there's nothing. ”

- JAMES P ANDERSON, DEATH ROW, SAN QUENTIN



BUILDING A NATIONAL GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION

As CR began to build out a staff structure for paid members to organize the organization full-time, to help support new chapters across the US, and to keep the momentum going from our conferences, **chapters formed from Oakland to New York and New Orleans**, and CR members began **to develop community projects, campaigns, and coalitions to fight the PIC locally**. Chapter activities ranged from *fighting prison construction and expansion*, to *working with public housing residents on surveillance and gentrification* issues, to *fighting to close juvenile detention centers*, to *developing political education programs for women in residential treatment centers*. Members have also participated in a wide range of coalition efforts. Although our chapter projects and campaigns have evolved over the course of CR's history, many of these projects and issues are still at the core of CR's work across the country.

Through CR's conferences and chapters, **CR has remained steadfast in advancing the call for PIC abolition through local projects and campaigns**. CR has helped stem the tide of prison and jail construction coast to coast, shifted common sense about policing and what makes our neighborhoods safe, and supported efforts to resist state repression and to silence dissent—all the while developing concrete organizing tools to help people envision life without the PIC.

As 2023 marks 25 years since Critical Resistance's inaugural conference, we come together once again to reflect on and celebrate the past 25 years of strategy and struggle against the PIC. In the past quarter century, Critical Resistance has made enormous gains against imprisonment, policing, and surveillance with coalition movement partners around the world.

“We need to get Critical Resistance into North Carolina. We need CR in all 50 states!”

- RAYMOND BRADLEY, ALEXANDER CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION, NC



Looking back at the past 25 years of struggle, what gains have been made against the PIC? How has the PIC shifted? What will the next two decades require given our current landscape of converging crises between late stage capitalism, climate catastrophe, and the strengthening of the far-right?

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS & PERFORMERS

Andrea Ritchie is a Black lesbian immigrant survivor who has been documenting, organizing, advocating, litigating, and agitating around policing and criminalization of Black women, girls, trans, and gender nonconforming people for the past three decades. She is the author of *Invisible No More: Police Violence Against Black Women and Women of Color* and the forthcoming *Practicing New Worlds: Abolition and Emergent Strategies*, as well as the co-author of *No More Police: A Case for Abolition*.



She co-founded the **Interrupting Criminalization** initiative with Mariame Kaba, as well as the **In Our Names Network**, a network of over 20 organizations working to end police violence against Black women, girls, trans and gender nonconforming people. In these capacities and as a consultant she supports dozens of organizations across the US working to divest from policing and invest in safer communities.

Ny Nourn is the **Co-Director of the Asian Prisoner Support Committee (APSC)**, a grassroots organization in Oakland advocating for Asian and Pacific Islander communities in prison and immigration detention. Ny's advocacy began while serving a **Life Without the Possibility of Parole (LWOP) sentence** in California.

Connecting her experience as a refugee and as a domestic violence survivor with the stories of others in prison inspired Ny to become an advocate for incarcerated survivors. **After 16 years of incarceration**, Ny was granted parole, but the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) called ICE to have her arrested on her release date.



After months of community mobilization, Ny walked out of immigration detention in November 2017.

After her release from ICE detention, Ny became **the Yuri Kochiyama Fellow at the Asian Law Caucus** where she mobilized an anti-deportation movement in response to Cambodian refugees being targeted for deportation by the Trump Administration before joining APSC. Recognizing Ny's tireless community advocacy and leadership, Governor Newsom granted Ny a gubernatorial pardon in 2020 preventing her deportation. In December of 2021, Ny graduated from **San Francisco State University**, earning a B.A Degree in Sociology.

Outside of her work with APSC, Ny supports criminalized domestic violence survivors as a part of the **California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP)** and **Survived and Punished**. A vision of a world without borders and cages inspires Ny to work each day building collective people power.

Angela Y. Davis is Professor Emerita of History of Consciousness and Feminist Studies at UC Santa Cruz. A globally renowned former political prisoner, activist, writer, and lecturer, her work focuses on prisons, policing, abolition, and the related intersections of race, gender, and class. From 1997-1998, Angela Davis worked to plan and organize **Critical Resistance's first conference**, and has remained a close and dear friend and comrade of CR ever since. She is the author of many books, from *Angela Davis: An Autobiography* to *Are Prisons Obsolete?* and *Freedom Is a Constant Struggle*. Her newer work, *Abolition. Feminism. Now.* (with Gina Dent, Erica Meiners, and Beth Richie), is a celebration of freedom work, a movement genealogy, a call to action, and a challenge to those who think of abolition and feminism as separate—even incompatible—political projects.

Steadily politically active in Black liberation and anti-capitalist struggles since the 1960s, Dr. Davis's work writing, researching, and teaching has been instrumental in building CR's political vision, the broader political ideology of PIC abolition, and in popularizing the term prison industrial complex so that our communities inside and outside of cages can effectively fight back.





Kamau Walton is a Black queer, gender non-confirming abolitionist. Following the US Social Forum in 2010, Kamau came into organizing in earnest as **a member of Critical Resistance's Oakland Chapter**. As part of CR, they waged & won a campaign after 5 years of struggle to **stop gang injunctions** in Oakland, the first victory against the policing strategy of gang injunctions in the country.

Kamau also was a part of campaigns to **fight jail expansion** in the Bay Area, **end solitary confinement** in California, and **defund police militarization trainings** like Urban Shield in the Bay Area. A part of several Black organizing formations including **the Black Lives Matter Bay Area Chapter & the Movement for Black Lives** for years, Kamau joined **Right To The City Alliance** after working at **TGI Justice Project**, where they worked to amplify the voices, politics and resilience of trans women of color targeted by policing & imprisonment.

Mohamed Shehk is one of **CR's co-directors**, currently leading CR's **Campaigns & Projects**. A Bay-Area-based Palestinian organizer, Mohamed originally joined CR in 2014 as CR's **National Media and Communications Director**, a position he held until 2020.

In his **nine years as a CR Co-Director** thus far, Mohamed has helped CR win tremendous victories across the organization, from **curbing multiple jail expansion projects** in **San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York City**, and **shutting down a SF county jail**; to **defunding and dismantling policing units and programs**, such as halting **Urban Shield** in the Bay Area, as well as Portland's gang enforcement team in Oregon.



Mohamed is now focused on leading **CR Oakland and Los Angeles** in the **statewide campaign to close 10 California prisons by 2025**, organizing with **CR New York City** in the **Abolish ICE New York-New Jersey Coalition's Dignity Not Detention Campaign** to end NY State's caging of immigrants and its collaboration with ICE, and supporting CR Portland in developing a **new anti-policing campaign**.



Ruth Wilson Gilmore is a co-founder of **Critical Resistance**. Ruthie supported the organizing of CR's first conference in 1997-1998, and was a core campaign organizer for CR's first campaign to Stop Delano II.

Ruthie is currently a **Professor of Earth & Environmental Sciences**, and **American Studies** at the **Graduate Center of the City University of New York**, where she is also **Director of the Center for Place, Culture, and Politics**. The recipient of several awards, she is the author of ***Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis, and Opposition in Globalizing California*** and more recently ***Abolition Geography***.

“Looking back, the movement to abolish the PIC has created a shift in thinking. We've gotten a lot more people thinking about how to get people out and how to keep people from being locked up. We've got more people working for a better end.”

- JO'AN DUNN,
IMPRISONED AT CMF VACAVILLE IN CA

Morning Star Gali is a member of the **Pit River Tribe** located in Northeastern California. She is currently serving as **Vice-chairperson** of the tribe.



Gali is also the **Executive Director of Indigenous Justice** and serves as the **California Tribal and Community Liaison** for the **International Indian Treaty Council**, working for the Sovereignty and Self Determination of Indigenous Peoples and the recognition and protection of Indigenous Rights, Treaties, Traditional Cultures and Sacred Lands.

For years, she has consistently worked to expose the disproportionate impact of the criminal and juvenile legal systems on Native Americans. She continues to lead large-scale actions while helping organize Native cultural, spiritual, academic, and political gatherings throughout California, and she is deeply committed to advocating for Indigenous sovereignty issues such as **missing and murdered Indigenous peoples (MMIP)**, climate justice, gender justice, and sacred sites protection on behalf of the tribal and inter-tribal communities in which she was raised. She is the proud parent of 4 incredible children that all have names in their tribal language of **Ajumawi**.

Rehana Lerandeanu is CR's **National Membership Organizer**. Originally from the Bay Area, Rehana first joined CR through the Oakland chapter, spending **5 years supporting the chapter's member development and grassroots fundraising efforts**, including being a core member of the CR20 anniversary event. Since, she has relocated to Atlanta, GA where she works on CR's newspaper **The Abolitionist** and coordinates CR's membership nationally. Outside of organizing with Critical Resistance, Rehana has a background in fighting for employment frights and opportunities for previously-imprisoned folks.



DANCING THROUGH PRISON WALLS

With **Suchi Branfman**

Dancing Through Prison Walls is a **California-based dance and performance project** whose mission is to dance with, choreography with and tell stories within embodied carceral landscapes and beyond, **amplifying voices of incarcerated people**, and addressing mass incarceration. Begun in **2016**, the work embraces a porous community of **incarcerated, formerly incarcerated, and “free world” dancers, choreographers, visual artists, and performers**, with the artistic direction of social practice choreographer **Suchi Branfman**, whose **ten-year choreographic residency at CRC Prison in Norco, California** began in 2016.



The resulting hours of dance, dance making, performance, film creation, and community conversations comprise a body of work that is at its essence **a critical dialogue about freedom, confinement, and ways for surviving restriction, limitations, and denial of liberty through the act of dancing**. Moving towards our North Star goal of decarceration and abolition, we dance through prison walls.

Artistic Guide/Director: Suchi Branfman
Technical Director: Katelan Braymer
Administrative Facilitator: Selina Ho

www.dancingthroughprisonwalls.org
dancingthroughprisonwalls@gmail.com



About the Performances by

DANCING THROUGH PRISON WALLS

1st Dance **DATA or "7 ways to dance a dance through prison walls"**

"In a world where punishment pretends to be a solution, we all suffer the chains of inequity. In a world where we dance with, believe in, and cherish one another; we rise on wings of unity. Only together, may we be free." - Forrest Reyes

DATA scrolls: COVID-19 numbers and deaths inside the California state prisons from March 2020-present. We ask your assistance in making space for this data to exist beside you.

Total COVID-19 cases = 93,257 Total deaths = 260

Choreographer/Author: "I Am You," by Forrest Reyes, inside CRC Prison, 2022

Choreographic Interpreter: Suchi Branfman, in deep collaboration with the performers

Performers: Marc Antoni Charcas, Ernst Fenelon Jr., Irvin Gonzalez, Selina Ho, Amy Oden, Tom Tsai, Suchi Branfman

Sound Score: Jimena Sarno **Set Design Advisor:** Kimi Hanauer



2nd Set of Dances

“Internal Battle: Negative and Positive”

Choreographer/Author: Brandon Alexander, inside CRC Prison, 2020

Choreographic Interpreter/Performer: Tom Tsai

Narrator: Ernst Fenelon Jr.

“Safety and Security” Two Nations’ Borders

Choreographer/Author: Terry Sakamoto Jr., inside CRC Prison, 2020

Choreographic Interpreters/Performers: Irvin Gonzalez & Marc Antoni Charcas

Narrator: Marc Antoni Charcas

**Sound Score
Composition:**
Alfonso Cervera

Sound Score: “Ilaló” by
Chancha Via Circuito
feat. Mateo Kingman



Photo by
Cooper Bates

“Nessun Dorma” Cover by Dan Vasc

Video: “Crossing the Border to Tijuana” by Mr. Awesomeburst.
YouTube. 9.9.20

VOICES FROM INSIDE

First,

I would like to say that Critical Resistance celebrating 25 years in the struggle is significant in itself. Think about how many organizations, collectives and groups engaged in this work that have folded within that time. To still be in existence, actively involved in the struggle, is remarkable. Critical Resistance's longevity, what enabled it to grow and continue in the struggle, is something all of us can learn from.

Looking back over the past 25 years, CR has provided cogent analysis and practical leadership on how to dismantle the PIC and create a world where all of us, human and nonhuman, can thrive. What is especially noteworthy is how CR has been able to keep us informed of the PIC throughout its many reforms, adaptations, adjustments and makeovers. The PIC is dynamic and sprawling. CR has not only spotlighted the changes and the carceral creep, but also highlighted the many ways people are resisting the PIC on both sides of the walls.

Moving forward, we need to continue to connect with people, inside and outside, so we can build a broad based movement. We need to be in the community. We need to listen to the people. We need to struggle alongside them.

In order to connect with people inside, we must stay invested in print publications. People inside, those experiencing policing and imprisonment everyday, those closest to the problem, don't have internet access. Print media is how they get their news. The Abolitionist connects people inside to the movement. It provides analysis, history, current events, and a forum for discussion. It is a space where community is created and practiced. So much of our activism has moved online. We need to remember that many of our community members don't have internet access. Supporting print media enables them to be in the conversation. And we need to hear their voices.

Always,

- STEVIE WILSON

Imprisoned writer & educator in PA
Columnist of CR's *The Abolitionist*



"9971" is Stevie's column in *The Abolitionist*, in honor of the Attica Rebellion that started on September 9, 1971

Greetings Comrades,

Congratulations on 25 years of abolition. My name is Steve Brooks. I am an inside organizer at San Quentin State prison. Looking back, what I consider to be most valuable to the movement to abolish the prison Industrial complex is the growing numbers of abolitionists. The growing awareness about racism and police brutality and incidents like the police murder of George Floyd has galvanized support for abolishing prisons, abolishing police, [and] abolishing drug laws, [...]. So I think prisons [...] are not going to be able to continue. After decades of repeating ourselves, I believe our message is resonating "Prison perpetuates the very harm it claims to prevent."

We must continue to push for adequate health care for the incarcerated and force officials to invest in people rather than cages. And I think we must continue to fight against predatory schemes corporations use to profit off poor Black and Brown people. As prisons become less profitable, they will become more obsolete.

What I am most excited about is that we are seeing prison closures in California. I am hopeful we'll see many more. I am excited about how reparations talks have been tied to the prisons. Real reparations



must address the problem of policing and incarcerating Black and Brown people. I am very hopeful moving forward as an inside organizer. I plan to continue to move as if I have the power to change the world.

- STEVE BROOKS

San Quentin Prison, CA
Ella Baker Center Inside Fellow
& CURB's PRison Closure Campaign

Critical Resistance,

In the prophetic words of the old abolitionist Fredrick Douglass, "Power concedes nothing without struggle or demand." It never has, and it never will. We must continue to fight, planting seeds of possibility, change, hope and transformation. We must continue speaking our truth to power as we work to agitate, educate and organize the people in our struggle to give birth to a more fair and just society.

It is in our movement work and action that possibilities are born. We must continue to organize against class exploitation under racial capitalism, environmental racism, gender oppression, and all forms of oppression that deny us of our human rights to live in dignity. Our vision is emancipatory, our pathfinding of organizational stewards understood that our power lies in organization.

The early visionaries that formed Critical Resistance understood that in order to rise against and weather the storms of the prison industrial complex, we must go through struggle. This is the very nature of life and power - the dialectical process of growth and revolution. It is in our personal and organizational struggles that a new consciousness emerges. Grounded in practice, theory, reflection, and more practice.



Our cause demands bold strategy and new ideologies to transform society at every level. Across these walls, we must continue to embody the spirit of Critical Resistance. A spirit of courage, resilience, strength and vision for collective liberation globally-To 25 more years of Critical Resistance, towards abolitionist horizons.

Can't Stop, Won't Stop.

- IFOMA MODIBO KAMBON

CA Hunger Striker,
Folsom State Prison

Toward Abolitionist Horizons

CO-SPONSORS

Just as with all of CR's work, this event would not be possible without the support, collaboration and solidarity from our powerful movement partners.

- 18 Million Rising
- African American Roundtable (Hmong American Women's Association)
- AK Press
- Anti-Police Terror Project (AFTP)
- Arab Resource & Organizing Center (AROC)
- Asian Prisoner Support Committee
- Ben & Jerry's
- California Coalition for Women Prisoners (CCWP)
- Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB)
- Catalyst Project
- Center for Political Education
- Charis Books
- Claremont Colleges Prison Abolition Collective
- Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)
- Consult Jenny
- Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
- East Bay Community Law Center
- Fierce Vulnerability Network
- Jewish Voice for Peace – Bay Area
- Haymarket Books
- Health Justice Commons
- Human Rights Program of Heising-Simons Foundation
- Interrupting Criminalization
- Immigrant Legal Resource Center
- Love & Protect
- Mask Oakland
- Marie Equi Institute
- New Breath Foundation
- Other Avenues Grocery Cooperative
- Palestinian Youth Movement
- Peace Development Fund
- Planting Justice
- San Francisco State University, California Faculty Association
- Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition
- Solidaire Network
- Survived & Punished
- Third Wave Fund
- Race, Gender, and Human Rights Fund at East Bay Community Foundation
- RGHR (East Bay Community Foundation)
- Resilient Strategies

Thank You, Comrades!

Co-sponsor Shout Outs!

In support of building a robust movement for abolition, check these announcements from some of our co-sponsors. Make sure to check out each organization listed as a co-sponsor and support the work for CR's movement partners.

AK Press Radical publishing, not just radical books. A worker-run collective since 1990.

Anti Police Terror Project (APTP) is excited to announce the opening of The People's House in the bottoms of West Oakland where we are offering a range of services including regular healing justice hours, low-cost meeting spaces, art space for BIPOC artists, and more. Also, Mental Health First - Oakland's only non-9-1-1 response to mental health crisis, intimate partner violence and substance abuse is **open Fridays & Saturdays 8pm-8am. 510-999-MH19. www.antipoliceterrorproject.org**

Asian Prisoner Support Committee Our beloved family APSC 4: Borey "Peejay" Ai, Nghiep "Ke" Lam, Chanthon Bun, and Maria Legarda are at risk of deportation. **Tell Governor Newsom to pardon them NOW so they can remain home with their families and community: action.18mr.org/pardonapsc3**

CCWP is an abolitionist organization that has been advocating for freedom alongside people in women's prisons for 28 years. Our Writing Warriors program coordinates advocacy through correspondence with individual people inside. Check it out at www.womenprisoners.org under programs.

Community Resource Hub has kicked off our first ever cohort of the George Jackson School. This is an eight-week training for new organizers to deepen foundational skills and reflect on their organizing practice with the goal of building stronger organizations and a stronger abolitionist movement.

CURYJ unlocks the leadership of young people to dream beyond bars. We look to young people to lead the way in transforming our communities by investing in their healing, aspirations, and activism. By 2030, we aim to end youth incarceration in California.

East Bay Community Law Center unlocks the leadership of young people to dream beyond bars. We look to young people to lead the way in transforming our communities by investing in their healing, aspirations, and activism. By 2030, we aim to end youth incarceration in California.

Haymarket Books is a radical, independent, nonprofit book publisher based in Chicago. We are committed to making our books available for free to people who are incarcerated through our Books Not Bars program.

Interrupting Criminalization *Are you building non-police crisis response in your community?* Join IC's monthly Building Coordinated Crisis Response Learning Space - more information at: www.interruptingcriminalization.com/practice-space.

Jewish Voice for Peace - Bay Area Join the Protest for Palestine - Saturday, May 13th @ 2PM PST - 518 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA

Love & Protect is uplifting two campaigns to support criminalized survivors. **Please visit freebernina.com** for ways to support Bernina Mata's clemency campaign. **Please visit www.facebook.com/freechrystul** for ways to support Chrystul Kizer's defense campaign.

Mujeres Unidas y Activas Domestic workers deserve health and safety protections! It's time to end the exclusion! **Sacramento – May 17th** – Join us in support of domestic workers' right to a safe and dignified workplace. Support SB686 – The Health and Safety for All Workers Act.



New Breath Foundation is proud to support Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander organizations led by and for survivors of violence and folks directly impacted by incarceration, detention, and deportation. Learn more about our work and the people behind it on our just-launched blog at **new-breath.org**, or on social media at **[@newbreathfoundation](https://twitter.com/newbreathfoundation)**.

Other Avenues Grocery Collective is a worker-owned grocery store serving the Outer Sunset community since 1974. **Open everyday 8am-9pm**, located off the N-Judah line at 3930 Judah at 44th Ave. We emphasize organic, regenerative, vegetarian, and fairly-traded products; our produce is 100% certified organic. **www.otheravenues.coop**

Palestinian Youth Movement **BAY AREA ALL OUT FOR PALESTINE!** We call on all friends of the Palestinian cause to join us on **SUNDAY MAY 13 at 518 Valencia, 2 PM** to commemorate **the 75th anniversary of the Nakba**. Wear your keffiyehs, bring your flags, and tell your community. We must show that the Bay says NO to Zionism and that even after 75 years of murder, exile, and ethnic cleansing, Palestinians have and will continue to resist, generation after generation until total liberation!

Peace Development Fund works to build the capacity of community-based organizations through grants, training, and other resources as partners in the human rights and social justice movements. Our newest program, the Braiding New Worlds Fund, supports youth-led organizing around the country. Check out peacedevelopmentfund.org today to donate, apply for a grant, or get involved!

Planting Justice is helping our community stay free by providing full-time living wage, dignified, and healing jobs for people coming home from incarceration that transform our local food system to make it more just and sustainable. Support Planting Justice by shopping our mail-order nursery, visiting us in deep East Oakland, or contributing at **www.plantingjustice.org**

Third Wave Foundation would like to partner with communities building resistance against the white supremacist carceral state to support us in recruiting two new Co-Directors to lead our team's fundraising and grant-making that goes to creating joyful liberation and the abolition of the carceral system. Learn more at **www.thirdwavefund.org/joinourteam**

18 Million Rising May is the Month of Solidarity in defense of Weelaunee Forest in Atlanta. Take action now and call on the Cop City contractors to cut their ties: **action.18mr.org/stopcopcity**. We're still far from our goal of 10,000 signatures to tell Governor Newsom: Pardon **#APSC4** so they can remain home with their families and community: **action.18mr.org/pardonapsc3**

SUSTAIN

Critical Resistance

In order to abolish the prison industrial complex (PIC), we need strong, resilient organizations building mighty, durable movements. **For 25 years, CR has committed to remaining grassroots, generating community power on the ground for PIC abolition.** As such, **our fundraising approach is a part of our wider organizing and political strategy to build and leverage collective power against imprisonment, policing and surveillance.**

Since 2014, CR has been majority grassroots funded, meaning donations from everyday community members and partners like you keep our doors open, our strategy scheming, and our organizing moving. **As of 2021, grassroots donations now provide 78% of our total budget,** which increases our financial stability and shifts more power and leadership into the hands of our local members.

Since 2020, we've seen a huge transfer of funds from the working class up to the billionaire class – adding fuel to the US's current recession. As the internal struggle within the capitalist class to govern neoliberalism heightens, austerity approaches, sweeping criminalization, militarized policing, aggressive surveillance and imprisonment are being deployed to make things more difficult for everyday working people. **In the years to come, CR is needed more than ever. Help sustain CR through this current moment of economic crisis and beyond!**

Where Your Donations Go

Your donations help sustain our organizing to stop prison and jail construction and close prisons and jails, to mobilize communities impacted by the violence of policing and surveillance, and to develop alternatives to punishment, repression, and criminalization that sustain the health and well-being of our families, neighborhoods, and communities.

Any amount directly supports practical and visionary organizing towards abolition. Donations of money, time, and other resources help propel our work forward. **Scan the QR code to donate today & sustain CR!**



As every penny helps Critical Resistance chip away at the prison industrial complex, any amount directly supports practical and visionary organizing towards abolition.

Donations of money, time, and other resources help propel our work forward.

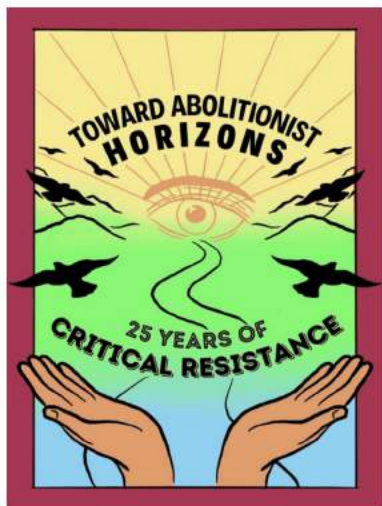
\$20 one time gets you a CR shirt and \$40 one time gets you a crewneck sweatshirt

\$50 one time covers printing cost and materials for a political education workshop in local organizing terrain

\$5 monthly signs you up a Monthly Sustainer of Critical Resistance

\$10 yearly gets you a print or electronic subscription to *The Abolitionist newspaper* of two issues per year AND sponsors a free subscription for an imprisoned person.

\$525 one time OR yearly gets you the “Movement Building” Package for *The Abolitionist Newspaper*, that’s a bulk order of 100 copies of each issue mailed directly to you, 2 times per year so that you can help distribute the paper to readers. Your donation also *supports an additional 100+ prisoners receive free subscriptions.*



\$1,000 supports Bay Area community and movement partners in need cover essential costs of health and survival like *therapy, medication* or *security deposit for housing once released from prison* through The Zachary Project.

← *Special Edition*
CR25 Event Poster!

CRITICAL RESISTANCE



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